

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
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AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
HQ USSOUTHCOM SCJ2  
USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR ILA, IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, UY  
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

1. SUMMARY: AT A LESS INTENSE LEVEL PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUED ON THE GENEVA HUMAN RIGHTS MEETING, SOUTHER CONE REACTION TO U.S. INITIATIVES, AND CRITICISM OF THE CONDUCT OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. ITS THRUST APPEARS TO BE DESIGNED TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE SOVEREIGNTY ASPECTS OF THE CONTROVERSY.  
END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT LESS INTENSE, PRESS INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES CONTINUED HIGH MARCH 10 AND 11 IN RELATION TO EVENTS SUCH AS THE ARGENTINE AND BRAZILIAN REJECTION OF MILITARY AID, AND THE GENEVA UN CONFERENCE. THE PRESS FEATURED STORIES ON THE REACTION OF THE SOUTHERN CONE NATIONS AND GAVE READERS THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT URUGUAY IS NOT ALONE IN ITS  
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REJECTION OF U.S. INITIATIVES. FURTHERMORE, STORIES EMANATING FROM WASHINGTON AND GENEVA APPEARED TO BE CHOSEN TO INFORM THE READER THAT OTHERS ARE BEGINNING TO QUESTION THE CONDUCT OF U.S. POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. IN STORIES HEADLINED "ERRO WITH TERRORISTS IN GENEVA; URUGUAY WAS ONLY ATTACKED BY THE UNITED STATES", "DIPLOMATIC

COUNTEROFFENSIVE TO CLARIFY THE IMAGE OF ARGENTINA", "WASHINGTON: DISARRAY OF CARTER'S FOREIGN POLICY CRITICIZED", "HUMAN RIGHTS: WIDE SUPPORT FOR URUGUAYAN MOTION IN GENEVA", READERS ARE TOLD OF ENRIQUE ERRO'S MEETINGS WITH REVOLUTIONARY TERRORIST GROUPS, HIS ATTEMPTS TO SPEAK AT THE CONFERENCE AND THE EVENTUAL CLOSING OF DEBATE UPON AN URUGUAYAN MOTION. REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE TYSON ATTACK ON URUGUAY, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, AND PARAGUAY, WHILE GOU DELEGATE AGUIRRE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THIS WAS THE "ONLY NOTE OF DISCORD WITH REGARD TO URUGUAY" AT THE CONFERENCE. OTHER STORIES REPORT ON THE REACTION OF SOUTHERN CONE NATIONS TO U.S. ACTIONS AND ONE NEWSPAPER QUOTES A MARCH 10 WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL CRITICAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY.

4. COMMENT. AS THIS PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUES AND INTENSIFIES PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY ASPECTS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CONTROVERSY MAY WELL INCREASE AND SOME OF THOSE NOW FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD US ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE MAY BEGIN TO HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS WITH REGARD TO OUR METHODS. THIS MAY WELL BE ITS INTENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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